

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (original) A multi-tier application architecture having a middletier comprising:  
  
a framework to mediate between an application and a middletier,  
  
wherein the framework allows a middletier to execute an object fetched by an application from a cache;  
  
wherein, when an object becomes stale, the framework repeatedly refreshes the object within a limited number of retries;  
  
wherein, when an object refresh succeeds, the framework returns the object to the cache and again allows the middletier to execute the object; and  
  
wherein, when an object refresh does not succeed within a limited number of retries, the framework quits an application in fail-safe way.
2. (original) The multi-tier application architecture according to claim 1, wherein a user can specify the limited number of retries.
3. (original) The multi-tier application architecture according to claim 2, wherein a user can specify a time interval between the retries.
4. (original) The multi-tier application architecture according to claim 1, wherein the framework has its operations visualized to a user.
5. (currently amended) The multi-tier application architecture according to claim 1, further including a watchdog to resume normal operations when the middletier ~~crashes~~ crashes.

6. (original) The multi-tier application architecture according to claim 5, wherein the watchdog recovers a middletier based on a result of periodical polling.

7. (original) The multi-tier application architecture according to claim 5, wherein the watchdog recovers a middletier based on notification from the framework.